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CLASSIFICATION \_\_STOCK FIDENTIAL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT SED Plans

SED Plans to Organize "Goon Squads"

in Berlin

PLACE ACQUIRED DATE OF I

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DATE DISTR. 20 December 1948

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



- 1. Personnelausschlase (Personnel Commissions) of the western sectors of Berlin have received instructions to begin selecting and establishing connections with non-SED members who are suitable for "Goon Squads". Preference has been expressed for former members of the KFD or the SED who have been dismissed from the party on moral or criminal grounds, and who thus will be offered a chance to reinstate themselves. Henchmen are also to be recruited from politically unconscious elements who, because of background or economic status, are naturally antagonistic towards the bourgeoisie and governmental authority. Certain functionaries will be detailed to frequent working class hars and similar gathering places to select and to become friendly with such types.
- 2. The above recruitment is not as yet urgent and will, under present instructions, proceed at a leisurely pace.
- 3. Source specifically stated that these men are to be selected for terrorism and personal violence.

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Comment: This decision follows several attempts of top SED leadership to create various types of activist groups all of which have been more or less unsuccessful. It should be noted that this is the first reliable report that has been received of actual SED preparations for later violent action. Source has consistently discounted in the past frequent rumors on the alleged existence of SED terror groups.)

